

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 131544

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TIMBS:DPSULLIVAN:CCH

APPROVED BY P - MR. NEWSOM

EA:RBOAKLEY

AIDASIA:BDUPUIS

ACTION:MKING

S/S-0 :JETHYDEN

-----095989 240507Z /17

P 232320Z MAY 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

SECRET STATE 131544

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, ID

SUBJECT: AMB. ASHARI CALL ON UNDER SECRETARY: PEACE CORPS

1. DURING COURSE AMB. ASHARI'S CALL ON UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM MAY 18 (SEPTEL), ASHARI RAISED SUBJECT OF PEACE CORPS. NOTING THAT SUBJECT HAD NOT BEEN RAISED BY VICE PRESIDENT, ASHARI SAID SUHARTO NONETHELESS WISHED HIM MAKE CLEAR THAT SUHARTO DOES NOT REJECT ASSISTANCE IN TECHNICAL FIELDS BY EXPERTS IN INDONESIA, PARTICULARLY IN AGRICULTURE AND POSSIBLY IN DRY RICE CULTIVATION, AS LONG AS IT DOES NOT USE THE NAME PEACE CORPS. IF ASSISTANCE POSSIBLE IN THAT FRAMEWORK, GOI WOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL. DAS OAKLEY NOTED THAT VICE PRESIDENT HAD INTENDED RAISE MATTER IN VIEW PEACE CORPS INTEREST IN WORKING IN INDONESIA, ALTHOUGH IN EVENT THERE DID NOT

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PROVE TO BE TIME TO DISCUSS IT, BUT THAT VICE PRESIDENT HAD NOT INTENDED TO PRESS FOR A DECISION BUT MERELY TO INDICATE THIS COULD BE POSSIBILITY IF GOI INTERESTED.

2. UNDER SECRETARY NOTED HIS AWARENESS OF SENSITIVITY IN INDONESIA CONCERNING PEACE CORPS NAME BUT STATED HE ALSO AWARE OF INSTANCES IN OTHER COUNTRIES OF ASSOCIATION IN

AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANCE IN WHICH PCV'S HAD BEEN ABLE WORK
SUCCESSFULLY. WHILE PEACE CORPS USUALLY LIKES TO HAVE

LARGE AND IDENTIFIABLE PROGRAMS, IN SOME PLACES VOLUNTEERS
HAVE GONE IN SMALL GROUPS AND IN SOME CASES IN ASSOCIATION
WITH USAID. UNDER SECRETARY SAID HIS INITIAL ADVICE TO
PEACE CORPS DURING HIS TIME IN INDONESIA HAS BEEN THAT IF
PEACE CORPS WENT TO GOI WITH A LIST OF POSITIONS IT COULD
FILL IN EXISTING PROGRAMS ALREADY UNDERWAY, THIS COULD
PROBABLY BE HANDLED. ASHARI AGAIN RAISED QUESTION OF
WHETHER SUCH GROUP WOULD USE PEACE CORPS NAME. UNDER
SECRETARY SAID THAT, IF HE JUDGED CORRECTLY, WHAT CON-
CERNED THE PRESIDENT WAS HIGH VISIBILITY, SUCH AS
A PROMINENTLY MARKED PEACE CORPS BUILDING, BUT HE
WONDERED WHETHER, IF PEACE CORPS COULD GO IN WITHOUT THE
EXTERNAL TRAPPINGS, THIS WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE. ASHARI
STATED THAT UNFORTUNATELY THE NAME PEACE CORPS WAS POLI-
TICALLY SENSITIVE BUT REITERATED THAT PRESIDENT SUHARTO
HAD NO OBJECTION TO THE PRESENCE OF VOLUNTEERS.

3. UNDER SECRETARY STATED THAT WE APPRECIATED THE PRESI-
DENT'S RESPONSE ON THIS MATTER. HE SUGGESTED THAT, IF
THE PEACE CORPS WAS WILLING, WE MIGHT ASK IF THE GOI WAS
WILLING TO RECEIVE SOMEONE JUST TO TALK ABOUT THE PROS-
PECT. DAS OAKLEY STATED THAT WE WOULD TALK TO DEPUTY
DIRECTOR OF ACTION AND ARRANGE TO GET AMBASSADOR ASHARI
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TOGETHER WITH HER. ASHARI AGAIN NOTED THAT FOOD PRODUC-
TION IS STILL FIRST PRIORITY AND MAIN CHALLENGE FOR INDO-
NESIA AND THAT DRY RICE IN PARTICULAR IS A PROBLEM AND AN
AREA IN WHICH EXPERT HELP COULD BE USEFUL.

4. WE ARE ARRANGING A MEETING BETWEEN MS. KING AND
AMBASSADOR ASHARI. CHRISTOPHER

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY: EA:JBADER

APPROVED BY: EA:JBADER

S/S-O:KDSCOTT

-----102858 241654Z /43

O 241600Z MAY 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE 9710

SECRET STATE 131544

EXDIS FOR ASST SECY HOLBROOKE AND GLEYSTEEN ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 131544, ACTION JAKARTA 23 MAY:

QUOTE SECRET STATE 131544

EXDIS

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TAGS: EAID, ID

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE131544
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DPSULLIVAN:CCH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780218-0367
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From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2596974
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMB. ASHARI CALL ON UNDER SECRETARY: PEACE CORPS
TAGS: EAID, ID, US, PC
To: JAKARTA
Type: TE
vdkgvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/26774698-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014